

The Decision to Terminate the NIS Program

1. The NIS Program was the subject of periodic review and reassessment because:

- it was an old, establish^{ed} program,
- it was costly of manpower and dollars,
- it served a broad range of consumers within the intelligence community far more than the current needs of the policymaker, and
- it presented continuing difficulties in terms of the efficiency of its production and coordination process.

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Almost all DDI components shared in absorbing^b this cut, but it became clear that a substantial portion of the slots would have to come from the NIS. A variety of options for consolidating and reducing the program (but keeping it alive) were considered, but--in the end-- it was decided that termination of the NIS was inevitable because of the very tight squeeze on Directorate resources.

3. Following are a summary of the DDI staff reductions in FY 1974 and a chronology of events leading to the NIS program's demise. Also included are the numbered documents referred to (Tabs 1-15) interspersed with other background items, all in chronological order from January 1973 to June 1974.

4. In the back of this package are copies of:

. NSCID No. 3 (Effective 17 February 1972)

. DCID No. 3/1 (Effective 23 April 1965)

. USIB-D-51.1/8, Concept, Direction and Management of the National Intelligence Survey (NIS) Program, and Coordination with Other Programs of Basic Intelligence 23 August 1963

. the 1969 Survey of the NIS Program.